

Patent claims

1. Method for transmission of messages, featuring the following steps:

- Transmission of a message (MMS) from a first message service provider (MMSE SP A) to a second message service provider (MMSE SP B), and
- Evaluation of the message (MMS) at the second message service provider (MMSE SP B),

characterized in that,

the message contains at least a first header field which features a reference to at least one network element

(MMS RL A) of the first message service provider which was involved in processing the message.

2. Method in accordance with Claim 1,

characterized by

Transmission of the message from the second message service provider to a network element (MMS UA B) outside a service environment

(MMSE), with the message containing at least a second header field which features a reference to at least one network element (MMS RL

B) of the second message service provider which was involved in the processing of the message.

3. Method in accordance with Claim 2,

characterized in that

the message, on transmission from the second message service

provider to the network element outside a service environment

(MMSE), contains the first header field which features a reference to at least one network element (MMS RL A) of the first message

service provider which was involved in the processing of the message.

4. Method in accordance with Claim 2 or 3,

characterized by

transmission of the message from the network element outside the service environment back via the second message service provider to the first message service provider, with the reference(s) set from the first and/or second header field being resolved in each return
5 transmission step.

5. Method according to one of the previous claims characterized in that the reference features the specification of a return path.

6. Method according to one of the previous claims
10 characterized in that the transmitted message is evaluated after arrival at the second message service provider (MMSE SP B) from a switching node (MMS RO).

7. Method according to one of the previous claims characterized in that

15 the functionality of the message is evident from at least one header field.

8. Method in accordance with one of the Claims 6 or 7, characterized in that

20 the switching node (MMS RO) determines, as a function of a header field, to which network element in the second message service provider the message will be relayed.

9. Method in accordance with one of the Claims 3 to 5, characterized in that

25 the switching node (MMS RO) is embodied as a self-contained network element.

10. Method in accordance with one of the Claims 3 to 5, characterized in that

the switching node (MMS RO) is integrated into a relaying means (MMS RL).

11. System for transmission of messages, featuring:

- means for transmitting a message (MMS) from a first message service provider (MMSE SP A) to a second message service provider (MMSE SP B), and
- means for evaluating the message (MMS) at the second message service provider (MMSE SP B),

characterized in that

the message contains at least a first header field which features a reference to at least one network element (MMS RL A) of the first message service provider which was involved in processing the message.

12. System in accordance with Claim 11,

characterized by

means for transmission of the message from the second message service provider to a network element (MMS UA B) outside a service environment (MMSE), with the message containing at least a second header field which features a reference to at least one network element (MMS RL B) of the second message service provider which was involved in the processing of the message.

13. System in accordance with Claim 12,

characterized in that

the message, on transmission from the second message service provider to the network element outside a service environment (MMSE), contains the first header field which features a reference to at least one network element (MMS RL A) of the first message service provider which was involved in the processing of the message.

14. System in accordance with Claim 12 or 13,

characterized by

means for transmission of the message from the network element outside the service environment back via the second message service provider to the first message service provider, with the reference(s) set from the first and/or second header field being resolved in each return transmission step.

15. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 14, characterized in that the reference features the specification of a return path.
16. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 15, characterized in that the transmitted message is evaluated after arrival at the second message service provider (MMSE SP B) by a switching node (MMS RO).
17. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 16, characterized in that the functionality of the message is evident from at least one header field.
18. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 or 17, characterized in that the switching node (MMS RO) determines, as a function of a header field, the network element in the second message service provider to which the message will be relayed.
19. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 18, characterized in that the switching node (MMS RO) is embodied as a self-contained network element.
20. System in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 19, characterized in that

the switching node (MMS RO) is integrated into a relaying means (MMS RL).

- 5 21. Mobile radio terminal for use in a method in accordance with one of the Claims 1 to 10 and/or in a system in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 20.
22. Transceiver for use with a method in accordance with one of the Claims 1 to 10 and/or in a system in accordance with one of the Claims 11 to 20.